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THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

A Publication of The Nature Conservancy

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W. Harley Webster, Editor

CONTENTS

The Project MAR Conference 3
Thoreau's Guide to Cape Cod 4
Clem Miller Memorial Fund 4
Craters of the Moon National Monument 5
News From Spain 6
Progress Report on Natural Area Preservation 6
Projects of The Nature Conservancy (Maps) 7-8
Arizona Chapter Report 11
Dome Island Survey 11
Ridges Sanctuary 12
Valhalla Glen 12
William S. Clough Nature Preserve 13
Natural Areas Threatened 13
Director's Message 14
Altamont Prairie 15
The Conservancy West 15
Membership Application Form 16

WINTER 1962: Rocky Branch, Illinois. In essence, Rocky Branch Natural Area has been the special province of the faculty and students of Eastern Illinois University for the past thirty years and more. Regular class studies and innumerable biological reports have been and are being made at Rocky Branch by persons in the science departments of Eastern Illinois University.

The Editor solicits the gift of articles, notes, photographs, and sketches on the various aspects of The Nature Conservancy. If possible, articles should be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of the paper. Photographs or negatives should have necessary date attached. All photographs, negatives and articles will be returned if desired.

THE PROJECT MAR CONFERENCE

By Richard H. Goodwin

On November 12, 1962 some 85 persons representing 17 nations converged on the little village of Saintes Maries-de-la-Mer at the edge of the Rhone delta in Southern France to participate in the MAR Conference on the preservation of the Wetlands of Europe and North Africa. Sponsored by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in cooperation with the International Committee for Bird Preservation (ICBP) and the International Wildfowl Research Bureau, Project MAR is an ambitious program aimed at developing international cooperation in wetlands preservation. MAR derives from the first three letters of Marshes (English), Marais (French), Marismas (Spanish).

The location of the Conference was appropriately in the heart of the largest wetland in France, the Camargue. This area has long been famous for the wealth of its bird life, which depends for its support upon the productivity of vast expanses of shallow lakes, muddy shores and range land roamed at will by wild cattle and sturdy white horses. A portion of the Camargue is already a National Reserve leased by the government from a company operating an extensive salt works at the edge of the Mediterranean. An adjacent portion has been set aside privately by Dr. Lucas Hoffmann, Director of the Biological Station of La Tour du Valat. Dr. Hoffmann has been a leading spirit in the planning of Project MAR.

The Conference was divided into two parts. The first dealt with the general problems of selection, establishment and management of wetland preserves; the second, with a detailed inventory of the wetlands requiring preservation in Europe and North Africa and the formulation of recommendations to the IUCN for future action to implement the findings of the Conference.

In the general discussions three nations, Great Britain, the Netherlands and the United States, played a dominant role, owing to the extent or maturity of their conservation programs. Great Britain has made great strides in the preservation of available wild habitat both under public and private auspices. Outstanding has been the program of its Nature Conservancy, a government agency entirely financed through public funds. The British are far ahead of us with respect to management planning and research use of the natural areas already established.

The Netherlands, with its great delta and low-lying wetlands has long been concerned with the enlightened use of these resources. Over half of the remaining coastal marshes have already been set aside as reserves and several governmental agencies, notably the State Institute for Nature Conservation Research and the Department of Nature Conservation of the Netherlands State Forestry Service, have been actively studying problems of scientific and educational use of these areas and have been developing techniques for their management and protection.

In North America, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has played a dominant role in the preservation of wetlands. The Director, Dr. D. H. Janzen, explained various aspects of the federal program on the National Wildlife Refuges and presented a film on the critical role of the prairie pot-holes in the north central states in duck reproduction and on the efforts to preserve them from drainage. The ways in which private philanthropy has aided in the establishment of sanctuaries and preserves on this continent was also stressed. The agencies mentioned included the National Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, the Wildlife Management Institute and the Ontario Conservation Council in Canada. A film produced by Roy Wilcox to educate the public on the importance of coastal wetlands, entitled "Marshland Is Not Wasteland," was shown. This was presented to the IUCN as a gift from the Coastal Wetlands Council.

The most important international aspect of the preservation of wetlands in Europe is the protection of bird habitat along the flyways. The vast breeding areas scattered across Scandinavia and northern Russia produce populations of ducks, geese and other water birds that must find food and shelter along a limited strip of coastal marshes in densely populated and progressively dryer terrain as they migrate southward to wintering grounds in France, Spain, Italy, the Balkans and North Africa. Thus, great concentrations of waterfowl are found during the winter in wetlands that are under increasing attack by an expanding human population. It is natural, then, that people with an ornithological interest should be taking a leading role in wetland preservation.

The second part of the Conference was devoted to compiling an inventory of the remaining wetlands. Preliminary maps which had been prepared prior to the Conference, on the basis of responses to questionnaires and of correspondence, were discussed in detail, country by country. Areas were selected which should receive first and second priority ratings in an international conservation program.

Although it was generally agreed that this inventory--with its bias toward bird preservation--would be highly useful as a point of departure, it was strongly urged by some of the participants that much further study should be undertaken to determine what other biotic communities and stations for endangered species of plants and animals should be included in a more definitive international plan.

The MAR Conference was a most educational experience for all the participants, and the resolutions which were adopted at its conclusion should provide direction to the further

development of Project MAR. The resolutions include recommendations (1) to the IUCN to prepare educational literature for the stimulation and guidance of conservation programs and a definitive inventory of European wetlands, and (2) to the various governments to incorporate wetland preservation into their national plans.

The United States delegates included four members of The Nature Conservancy: Dr. Edward H. Graham, one of our Board of Governors, who is also a member of the Board of the IUCN, Dr. G. H. Orians, of Seattle, Washington, John S. Rankin, Jr., Chairman of the Salt Marsh Committee of the Connecticut Chapter, and the writer. ---R.H.G.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH SAYS . . . .

"Some day the nature reserves will be the only places where studies of wildlife may be authenticated."

In a recent issue of "Wildlife Service" published by The Fauna Protection Panel of the Chief Secretary's Department, Sydney, Australia, it was pointed out that the consort of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, has "hit out at the extermination of the world's wild life."

"Wild life and wild places," said the Duke, "are being destroyed faster than at any time in history. Now we are setting out the extermination of every kind of animal--as pests, for profit or just for fun."

"Human habitation and agriculture encroach deeper into the last remaining places where wild animals live."

How true--not only in the far flung reaches of the British Commonwealth of Nations, but here in our own United States as well. Any nation that fails to recognize the significance of natural environments in the field of ecology, both pure and allied, surely lacks the kind of vision which insures advances in agriculture, medicine and biology, at least. Some day the nature reserves will be the only places where studies of wildlife may be authenticated, indeed.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The following letter from one of our members is quoted in its entirety. It is a humorous by-play which we thought would be enjoyed by our readers:

"Erie National Wildlife Refuge, Pa.--This new refuge in Crawford County will be the site of a $70,000 project to provide 'recreational' facilities.

"The latter presumably includes such things as merry-go-rounds for deer, bath-huts for raccoons, water-skis for ducks, nail-files for wildcats, ping-pong tables for bullfrogs, and rest rooms for skunks."

'NUFF SAID!

THOREAU'S GUIDE TO CAPE COD

Edited and Photographically Illustrated By Alexander B. Adams

Pub. by Devin-Adair Co., New York, N.Y.
148 pp., 1962, $4.50

Cape Cod is not just a geographical feature of the New England Coast, it is a way of life. In a land where concentrations of population and man's devices for changing everything for his profit or convenience, it is unique that Cape Cod has retained so much of the mid-nineteenth century atmosphere. Even then it was a land of tradition and culture that set it apart.

This Thoreau saw and depicted in his writings as he traversed on foot the ground from Orleans on the lower Cape to Provincetown at the tip. He saw with his peculiar genius the people and the landscape. He listened to the sounds, and noted the color of life. These he recorded in living words as he made his journey along road and shoreline.

Because he wrote of his Cape Cod travels to be paid by the line, he sometimes rambled and departed from the effective style for which he is noted. By good editing, this defect in the original writings has been eliminated and the reader now may have Thoreau's work at its best.

To members of The Nature Conservancy, Alexander B. Adams is no stranger. His practical approach to problems and his dedication to conservation are evident to all who read his keynote message in the Fall Issue of The News. He has studied the landscape of today and, by direct quotation, supported by superb photographs, has revealed again what Thoreau saw in the land features and found in the settlements.

Through the pages of the book one gets the feeling of the places as they were seen at the middle of the nineteenth century and as they still remain today. The reader is privileged to travel with Thoreau and Adams the length of Cape Cod and observe how man has fitted into the ecology of the land as perhaps nowhere else in America.

The establishment of the National Seashore on Cape Cod assures us that at least a part of this beautiful area will remain in an ecological balance. Other sections are bound to fall victims of "development." Both for an understanding of the National Seashore and as a reminder of what has been, the book stands as a monument to the preservation of a land and a way of life that survived the first three centuries of the White Man's domain. ---W.S.B.

THE CLEM MILLER MEMORIAL FUND has received $1,797 from 122 contributors which will be used for Point Reyes National Seashore Park north of San Francisco.

Congressman Miller was the guiding light behind the Bill creating the 53,000-acre Park.

President Kennedy asked $5,000,000 to begin land acquisition when he signed the Bill on September 13, 1962.

National Park Service photo by Roger W. Toll

KENNEDY PROCLAMATION ADDS IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC LANDS TO CRATERS OF THE MOON NATIONAL MONUMENT

Behind the following excellent item of news on natural areas is a long story of the tireless effort by Dr. F. Raymond Fosberg, to have the area preserved. While the importance of the kipuka was recognized, complications in the legal aspects of adding it to the monument were exceedingly difficult to resolve and there was a tendency to set the problem aside rather than push it on to completion. The NEWS extends its hearty congratulations to Dr. Fosberg for his continued efforts which have finally been crowned with success.

"United States Department of the Interior News Release"
Office of the Secretary
November 24, 1962

"Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall today announced that President Kennedy has signed a proclamation adding 5,361 acres of public lands to the Craters of the Moon National Monument in Idaho.

These lands adjoin the Monument and consist largely of a raw, recent lava flow in an extremely broken and jagged form. They contain, also, a feature of great scientific interest--a 180-acre kipuka. This is a Hawaiian term used to describe an island of vegetation which is completely surrounded by lava flow. Such kipukas, or islands of undisturbed grassland, are an unusual occurrence and no such feature has been included in the Monument until now.

Secretary Udall said that the addition of the kipuka and surrounding lava flow will assure preservation of its important scientific values and will provide excellent opportunities for ecological study to determine the extent to which volcanic action has modified adjacent floral and soil conditions. Inclusion of the surrounding lava area serves to isolate the kipuka and keep it undisturbed, which is a factor that has contributed substantially to its scientific value.

Craters of the Moon National Monument, located near Arco, Idaho, is one of the most outstanding examples of volcanic activity in the Nation. It derives its name from the resemblance it has to the moon, as viewed through a telescope. The Monument displays an extraordinary variety of the effects of volcanic activity--such as lava flows and cinder cones.

Secretary Udall noted that the Senate and House Interior and Insular Affairs Committees reviewed the proposal to add the acreage to the Monument and agreed that it should be accomplished by Presidential Proclamation."

Note: At the Executive Committee meeting of The Nature Conservancy in Washington on December 4th, a resolution was adopted warmly congratulating the Secretary for his activity in this matter.

NEWS FROM SPAIN

A new national organization for the preservation of Nature has just been founded in Madrid, Spain, under the name of the Spanish Society of Friends of Nature (Agrupacion Espanola de Amigos de la Naturaleza). The founders include Colonel Espana, President of the National Federation of Sportsmen (Fed. Nac. de Caza y Pesca), Dr. Diaz y Gomez, distinguished surgeon and President of the Medical Association (Colegio de Medicos), Dr. Garcia Reyes, director of a large insurance company and medical consultant to the Press Association, Sr. Garcia Llorens, Chief Taxidermist of the National Museum of Natural Sciences, Sr. A. Valverde, former Director of the Acclimatation Station at Almeria and who now represents Spain on the Ecological Committee of the IUCN; also well known are an agronomist, Sr. Perena, and a civil engineer, Sr. Urena.

These prominent men feel strongly the need of preserving in Spain, wherever possible, the biological balance in Nature--a balance which has been endangered everywhere, and in many places destroyed, by the ruthlessness and thoughtlessness of man.

Spain is a land rich in species of fauna and flora that are becoming, year by year, more rare, and for which adequate protection is urgently needed, viz. the royal eagle, the imperial eagle, the great bustard, to mention only a few of the birds.

The beautiful black lizard, indigenous to the Island of Ibiza, has suffered so much at the hands of collectors that now there is hardly one to be found where, only some years ago, they were plentiful!

After studying the work of various conservation bodies in other Western countries, the Spanish group decided to use as a guide the by-laws of The Nature Conservancy (USA), and is losing no time in tackling the big task ahead. An effective educational and publicity campaign is to be started; a list of endangered species compiled, a practical program for Nature refuges prepared, and so forth. These Friends of Nature are ambitious: among other plans, they contemplate establishing a great bird sanctuary as a national park where all the Spanish species will enjoy complete protection.

All these far-sighted men, the Spanish Friends of Nature, are to be congratulated--and a special word is due to Dr. Garcia Reyes for his unflagging efforts--on bringing about this happy result.

The Spanish Society of Friends of Nature will be welcomed by all our members, who will wish it the best of luck and extend any courtesy or help they can. Their address is: Agrupacion Espanola de Amigos de la Naturaleza, Plaza de Santo Domingo, 16 piso 4º, Madrid, Spain.

A nuestros amigos de Espana, bienvenidos y buena suerte!

PROGRESS REPORT ON NATURAL AREA PRESERVATION

By P. B. Dowling

A. Areas Preserved

In going over our files for significant actions on preservation projects which had not been previously reported to the members, we found 36 items of particular interest, and, similarly, many prospective projects--or far too many to report in detail.

Substantial progress on Connecticut projects has been made, with action on four areas. A purchase agreement has been signed for the Cleary Reserve in California. A number of Wisconsin projects are moving along, with Ridges Sanctuary project completed. Kimball Woods, Ohio, has been transferred to Kent State University. The Step Falls and the St. Clair Tract projects in Maine have reported progress.

In addition, word has been received telling of substantial progress on Deering Preserve, Washington; Camassia Preserve, Oregon; Dormon Tract, La.; Altamont Prairie, South Dakota; St. Lucie River Sanctuary, Florida; Ogeechee Natural Area, Georgia; Lakeville Swamp, Michigan; Forest of the Wabash, Illinois; and Hemlock Glen, New Jersey.

B. Areas Saved by Cooperative Action

There has been a recognizable increase in recent months in the willingness of government agencies to set aside natural areas. We feel this is due, in some part, to The Nature Conservancy's meeting in Corvallis on this subject, which was the culmination of several years of work with the respective agencies.

The U.S. Forest Service has dedicated areas in three different sections of the country where we had previously recommended dedication. These are: the seven natural areas in the Three Sisters area in Oregon; Bee Branch in Alabama; and Sycamore Canyon in Arizona.

The National Park Service has asked the cooperation of The Conservancy staff in a national "natural history landmarks" program.

The Bureau of Land Management has also requested our assistance, but as yet we have been unable to meet this request.

Progress has likewise been made with state and local governments and with other non-profit organizations (colleges). The 400-acre Boyd Tract in North Carolina has been given to the State, and The Nature Conservancy named in a reverter clause. A Nature Conservancy member is donating a natural area in Massachusetts to Harvard University, at the same time naming The Conservancy in a reverter clause. The citizens of Boulder, Colorado, have voted funds to acquire the Flatiron Mesa Trail, a project supported by The Nature Conservancy.

(Continued on page 11)

PROJECTS OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Areas in which The Nature Conservancy has:

(a) Been instrumental in preservation
(b) Assisted another organization (Assist)
(c) Been named as the Guarantor (Reverter)

Areas are noted on the spot map on a state by state basis, as follows:

Arizona:
1. Sycamore Canyon (Assist)

California:
1. Northern California Coast Range Preserve
2. Black Chasm Cave
3. Buena Vista Lagoon
4. Ernest W. Cleary Reserve
5. Forest of Nisine Marks
6. Rancho Montana de Oro

Florida:
1. Corkscrew Swamp (Assist)
2. Koreshan State Park

Idaho:
1. Kipuka Annex (Craters of the Moon) (Assist)

Illinois:
1. Volo Bog
2. Wauconda Bog
3. Rocky Branch
4. Prairie Chicken Sanctuary (Assist)

Indiana:
1. Pine Hills
2. Blue Bluff
3. Botany Glen (Reverter)

Iowa:
1. Berry Woods

Maine:
1. Step Falls
2. St. Clair Tract

Maryland:
1. Battle Creek Cypress Swamp
2. Hellen Creek Hemlock

Massachusetts:
1. William G. Vinal Nature Reserve

Michigan:
1. South Manitou Island (Assist)

Minnesota:
1. Caledonia Oaks
2. Koochiching Lands
3. Winger Savanna
4. Crookston Prairie

Missouri:
1. Tucker Prairie (Assist)
2. Carsonhurst
3. Hyer Memorial Woods
4. Holly Ridge
5. Alma Peterson Azalea Memorial
6. Lily Pond

New Hampshire:
1. Louis Cabot Preserve (Nubanusit)

New Jersey:
1. Hutcheson Memorial Forest (Assist)

Central & Western New York:
3. Bergen Swamp (Assist)
4. Dome Island
6. Moss Lake Nature Sanctuary
7. Little Bear Swamp
10. Deer Lick Nature Sanctuary
11. Rips Retreat
12. Gloversville Tract

North Carolina:
1. Standing Indian (Assist)
2. Boyd Forest (Reverter)

Ohio:
1. E. Lucy Braun Preserve (Lynx Prairie)
2. Buzzardroost Rock
3. Dysart Woods
4. Kimball Woods

Oregon:
1. Camassia Preserve

Pennsylvania:
1. Woodbourne Forest
2. Cranberry Bog (Tannersville Bog)

South Dakota:
1. Altamont Prairie

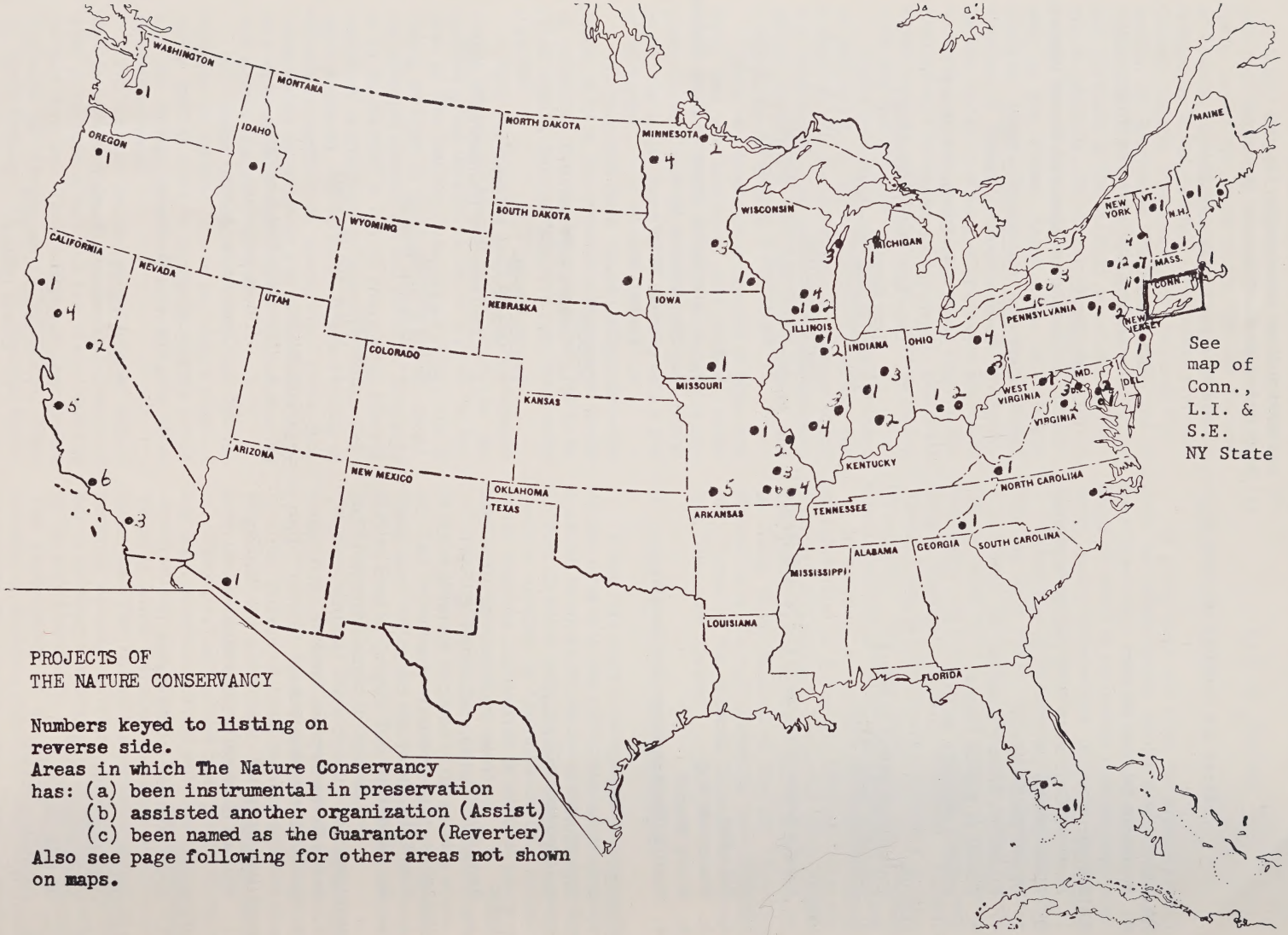
Vermont:
1. Molly Bog (Assist)

Virginia:
1. Mountain Meadow Farm
2. Wildcat Mountain
3. Great Falls (Assist)

Washington:
1. Deering Preserve

West Virginia:
1. Cranesville Swamp

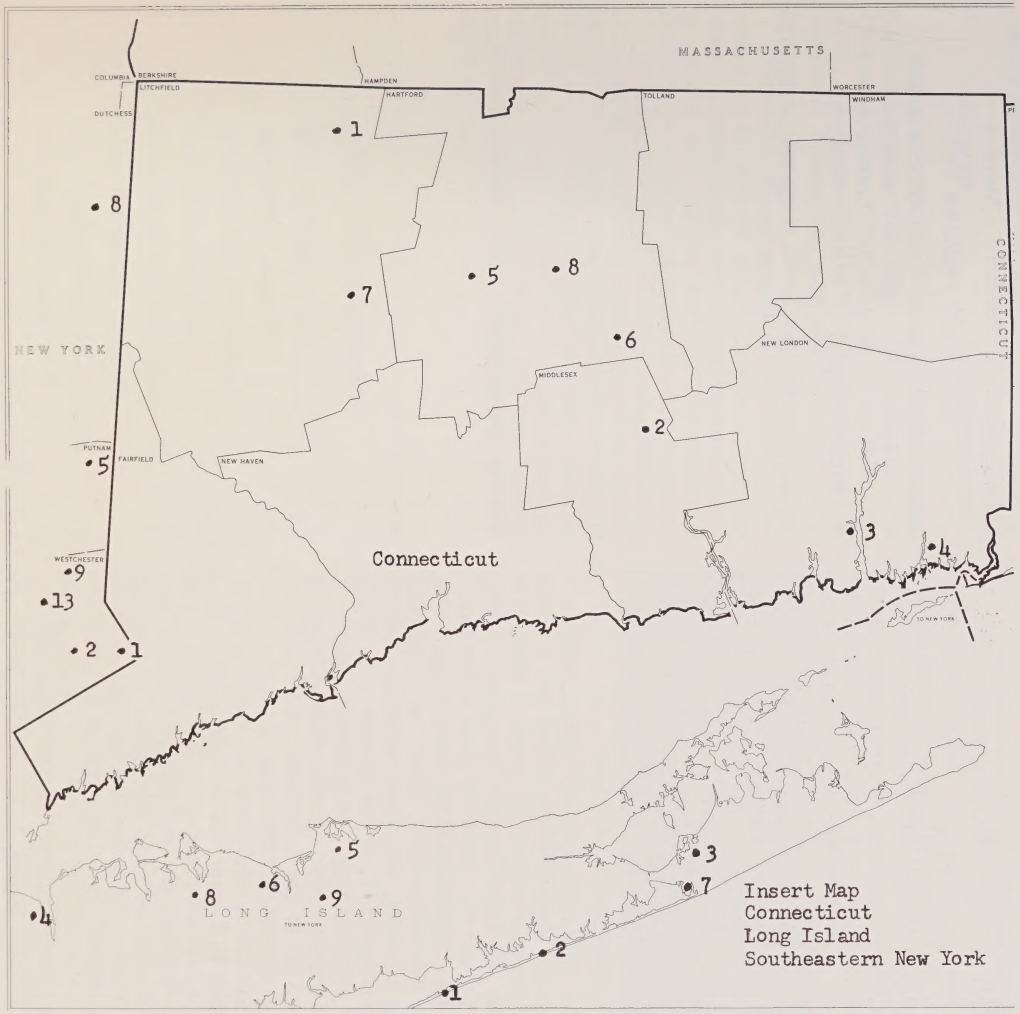
Wisconsin:
1. Abraham's Woods
2. Oliver Prairie
3. Ridges Sanctuary (Assist)
4. Lodi Mill Bluff



See map of Conn., L.I. & S.E. NY State

PROJECTS OF
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Numbers keyed to listing on reverse side.
Areas in which The Nature Conservancy has: (a) been instrumental in preservation
(b) assisted another organization (Assist)
(c) been named as the Guarantor (Reverter)
Also see page following for other areas not shown on maps.



Connecticut:

1. Frederic C. Walcott Preserve
2. Burnham Brook
3. Mamacoke Island (Reverter)
4. Akeley Tract
5. Taine Mountain
6. Cotton Hollow
7. Bantam River
8. Folley Brook

Southeastern New York:

1. Mianus River Gorge
2. Arthur W. Butler Memorial Sanctuary
5. Pawling Nature Reserve
8. Thompson Pond
9. Thurber Memorial Sanctuary
13. William S. Clough Nature Reserve

Long Island, New York:

1. Sunken Forest Preserve (Assist)
2. Smoky Hollow Bog
3. Wolf Swamp Sanctuary
4. Kings Point Pond
5. Huntington Woods
6. Delafield Woods
7. DuPont Wildlife Sanctuary
8. Charles Church Wildlife Preserve (Assist)
9. Hoyt Tract (Reverter)

PROJECTS AIDED BY THE NATURE CONSERVANCY IN A VARIETY OF WAYS

State	Project	Type of Area	Owner
Alabama	Bee Branch		
S. Calif.	Butte Wildflower Sanctuary	Desert wildflower area	Los Angeles Co.
	Theodore Payne Wildlife Sanctuary	" " "	Los Angeles Co.
	The Phacelia Wildflower Sanctuary	" " "	Los Angeles Co.
Calif.	St. Hilary's Wildflower Preserve		Landmarks Society
Colorado	Flatirons Mesa		Municipal
Florida	Hemp Island	Subtropical, shrub covered island	US Fish & Wildlife Service
Georgia	Coopers Creek Scenic Area	Old-growth hemlocks	US Forest Service
Miss.	Horn Isle	Dunes & woodland off Gulf Coast	US Fish & Wildlife Service
Nebraska	Curtis Tract	Mixed grassland, stream-bank woodland	State of Nebraska
New York (ENY Chap.)	(Tivoli Lake (Triviolli Lakes	School natural area	City of Albany, New York
	Normanskill	Riparian woodland	City of Albany, New York
N. Dak.	Big Top Butte) Two Top Butte)	Mixed grasslands	US Forest Service
Ohio	Mentor Marsh		
Oregon	Coos Bay		
	Butte Creek Falls		
	Three Sisters		
Virginia	Leven Tract	Fairfax County Park	Fairfax County
	Seashore Area		

The greatest progress in the past few months has been in the important area of co-operation with governmental and related agencies.

C. Areas Lost or Endangered

The following areas in which The Nature Conservancy has a strong interest are threatened:

Butler Sanctuary, New York
Sunken Forest, New York
Buena Vista Lagoon, California
Barber Woods, Michigan

The threat to the first three areas, which still continues, has already been reported upon. The loss of Barber Woods is a heartfelt blow to all those in The Conservancy who have worked on this project. The area is purported to be the most outstanding forest in the southern peninsula of Michigan. The loss of Barber Woods is a terrific blow to the purposes for which The Nature Conservancy is dedicated.

THE ARIZONA CHAPTER

Marcus B. Whitney, Chairman of the Arizona Chapter, reports that since its organization in 1961 this Chapter has had two primary objectives: The acquisition of Ramsey Canyon in the Huachuca Mountains, and the preservation of Sycamore Canyon in Coronado National Forest.

Ramsey Canyon awaits the decision of its owner as to whether he will bequeath it to The Nature Conservancy. This conservation-minded physician and surgeon and TNC have been in touch for several years regarding this property.

Sycamore Canyon as well as being beautiful, contains plants not found elsewhere in the United States. It slopes from Arizona into Mexico. It is most encouraging to know that after years of effort the United States Forest Service has announced that Sycamore Canyon has been made a scenic area with certain portions designated as botanic areas.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. William C. Adams
Miss Helen Bradley
Mrs. George R. Cooley
Mrs. Malcolm Donald
Mrs. Dorothy C. Gosting
Mrs. Margareta Lindroth
Mr. & Mrs. Edward C. Ulrich
Mr. Sherwin Wood

DOME ISLAND SURVEY

A vegetation survey of Dome Island in Lake George, New York State, was made during the summer of 1961 by Mr. James N. Shelly, under the direction of Professor Paul C. Lemon of the State University of New York at Albany, report of which has just been released. The survey consisted of measuring all tree species with a DHB of three inches or over on 28 quadrants each of 0.1 acre in area. The total area surveyed was thus 2.8 acres or 19% of the total area of the sanctuary. One thousand and twenty-five trees were measured.

The chief findings were:

1. Dead standing and down trees are numerous and typical of a virgin forest.
2. Two distinct climax forest types were found--the red oak-hemlock occupies the southern portion of the Island, while red oak-beech occupies the remainder.
3. Unusually high amounts of basswood, striped maple, and black birch were noted. Lack of yellow birch is considered significant since this species is common in the Adirondack forest.

The survey represents the first systematic study of the Island's vegetation. It is, of course, only a partial study and many new questions come to mind in considering the results. The survey does, however, provide a measure of the main forest cover, which measure we can use to follow changes in the future.

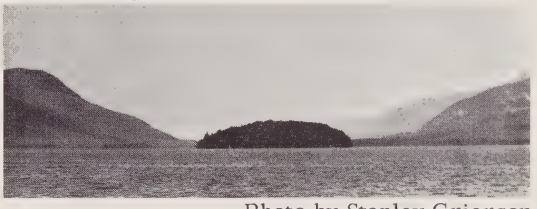


Photo by Stanley Grierson

Dome Island, given to The Nature Conservancy a few years ago by John S. Apperson for permanent keeping as a nature preserve, is a gently contoured conical knob, an unspoiled island which today is much as it was a thousand years ago, located in Lake George, east of Bolton Landing, New York. This island is a glacially formed mound of sand and gravel, a good example of a natural kame. The tree community is virgin, providing the opportunity to study an undisturbed Adirondack forest, isolated by water.

While Mr. Shelly's study is of immediate importance, its major significance is in its providing a basis for the study of changes in the plant community with the passing of years. This lack of detailed, accurate information on just what was to be found upon any given area during the past is one of the very serious handicaps which ecologists encounter when entering upon the study of an area and the changes that are taking place.

The study further highlights the importance of Dome Island as a nature preserve, and

because of its actual dome-like shape, it is not easily adaptable to extensive building, but on the basis of per-foot shoreline valuation today, the island has been appraised by prominent real estate men at from $100,000 to $150,000.

A summer patrol of the island is maintained by the project committee in order to prevent detrimental activities on the part of visitors.

RIDGES SANCTUARY

The Ridges Sanctuary, located at Bailey's Harbor, Door County, Wisconsin, is a wildflower preserve consisting of a series of ridges (old shoreline of Lake Michigan) and bogs that constitute the most spectacular collection of rare plants in the Middle West. The 10-acre adjacent tract, acquired later, contains several colonies of Ram's Head Orchids. Twenty-five species of orchids are found on the Sanctuary.

The Ridges Sanctuary, Inc., which owns the original 736 acres, wishes to add the adjacent 10-acre tract to the Sanctuary in order to protect its watershed. In December 1961, The Nature Conservancy loaned them $1,500 to buy the land. An additional 250 acres of land is needed to complete the Sanctuary.

The land itself is in custody of The Ridges Sanctuary, Inc., and The Nature Conservancy has been advised by Mr. Murl Deusing, President, that the entire amount has been raised to repay the loan.

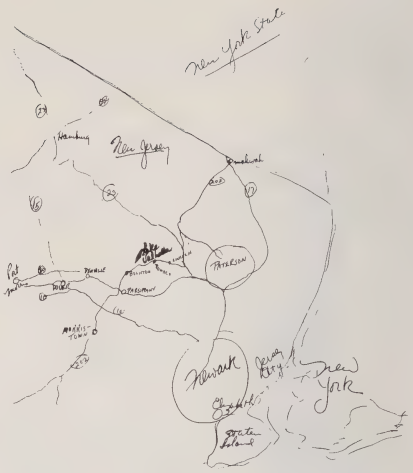
Three nature trails are open to the public, one-quarter mile from Bailey's Harbor on the Shore Road, and further information can be obtained from Mr. Deusing, c/o The Ridges Sanctuary, Bailey's Harbor, Michigan.

VALHALLA GLEN

A very important natural area preservation opportunity has been developed in Northern New Jersey for the acquisition of a mature Hemlock glen. The site, on the north edge of Lake Valhalla between the towns of Pompton Lakes and Mountain Lakes, is of specific importance to Montclair State College as an outdoor laboratory. Dr. E. DeAlton Partridge, President of the College, is actively leading a Nature Conservancy project committee in an attempt to preserve this area.

The glen is a mature mixed hardwood and coniferous forest with the dominant feature being a stand of large Hemlocks (some 2-1/2 feet in diameter and going up to 90 feet in height) in a ravine, with hardwoods on the sides and tops of ridges. A small lake with a marsh community at the head of the ravine, together with the stream, provide three aquatic habitats.

Valhalla Glen is one of the last forests of this kind in Northern New Jersey, and it is close to metropolitan New York. It is relatively undisturbed and will be destroyed for a subdivision if not purchased. Located in the summer of 1962 by Gerald Harris in a field survey, it was



found that the staff at Montclair State College was willing to assist in the preservation of this area. --a virgin forest in the truest sense of the word.

When this region was logged years ago, the hillsides were denuded while the deeper gorges were left untouched. The glen is the best developed gorge in the area--from hilltop to stream bed it is estimated that the drop is about 120 feet. The natural area is narrow and long, about one-half mile in length. The area is relatively well buffered on three sides by swamp and forest of forty year old second growth hardwoods and on the fourth side by a private residential community.

The glen valley is rather narrow with sides 30 to 50 feet above the brook at the middle and lower at each end. There is a good trail (former woodroad) up the west side. There are a few oak, ash and sycamore trees. A few openings have been made where Hemlocks have fallen. These are covered with a deciduous stand, mostly Black Birch. There is no ground cover vegetation under the solid Hemlock stand.

On the west side are some rock ledges. About one-third mile from the lake road the valley flattens and the trees are all deciduous. An old dam across the valley makes a shallow pond of about one-half acre.

The chief obstacle to acquisition of Valhalla may be economic. Somewhere between 20 and 35 acres have been acquired by real estate agents, and their selling price has been indicated at $2,500 per acre. This seems very high, but one must bear in mind that plots this close to metropolitan New York sell for two and three times as much.

On November 24th this year, Dan Smiley, member of the Board of Governors, Dr. Walter Boardman, the Executive Director, and Bruce Dowling, Assistant Director, spent a day inspecting the Valhalla Glen proposal.

The inspection party called on Dr. Partridge at his home, and the problems of acquisition were discussed. Contributions and pledges have already been received, and the Executive Director has advised Dr. Partridge that The Nature

Conservancy is prepared to make a loan to the project, if it is felt that the financial arrangements are sound.

We are most fortunate in having Dr. Partridge to head up this project committee. His grasp of conservation values and his knowledge of outdoor matters is most impressive; and, further, he has a deep interest in teaching ecology and conservation.

WILLIAM S. CLOUGH NATURE PRESERVE

This preserve is located in Putnam County, Brewster, New York, one-half mile from the Brewster High School.

Mrs. William S. Clough, resident for more than 40 years of Farm-to-Market Road near Brewster, donated the property to The Nature Conservancy in July.

The gift of 50 acres made in memory of her late husband, will be known as the William S. Clough Nature Preserve.

The acreage, which lies directly across the road from the Clough residence in the Township of Paterson, is unusual in its varied topography. With fresh water marsh and swamp, plus wooded slopes, it includes highland, swampland, spruce grove and brook. Hundreds of wildflowers, ferns, mosses and native shrubs and trees thrive in the area. Many kinds of birds and other wildlife populate the preserve.

Preliminary negotiations were begun in February 1962 between representatives of The Nature Conservancy and the donor. Mrs. Clough was anxious to transfer title of the land to The Conservancy for preservation as a wildlife sanctuary in memory of her late husband. In April of this year the Board of Governors approved acceptance of the gift.

The property was transferred to The Nature Conservancy by deed on July 26, 1962, and it is now under the management of a local Board of Trustees, which held its initial meeting July 1st and elected Mrs. Clough as Chairman.

As soon as trails can be established to provide access to the most interesting sections of the preserve, it will be open to the public for research and nature study, to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts for field trips, and to school children as an outdoor classroom for art, biological and other studies. Since Brewster High School is only a short distance away, it should be particularly valuable to students. Under the policies of The Nature Conservancy, no camping, picnicking, fishing or hunting will be permitted.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

On November 17, 1962, at its regular meeting, the Board of Governors adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, The Nature Conservancy has accepted from Mrs. Leonora Rouzer Clough the donation of about 50 acres located near Brewster, Putnam County, New York, as a natural area preserve, and

WHEREAS, members of the Board are well aware of the ever-increasing value of such natural areas for education, research, and inspirational values,

Now therefore, be it RESOLVED that the deep gratitude of The Nature Conservancy is extended to the donor.

And be it further RESOLVED that the Preserve shall henceforth be known as the William S. Clough Nature Preserve."

Clough Preserve, N.Y. Photo—D. Smiley

NATURAL AREAS THREATENED

The closing months of 1962 have shown that the contest with the concrete mixer does not end with the acquisition of the land. Three important areas already acquired, or in the preservation of which The Conservancy has been deeply involved, are threatened by destructive proposals. These are: (1) a state parkway on Fire Island, New York; (2) a real estate development in Buena Vista Lagoon in Southern California; and (3) damage to the Arthur W. Butler Memorial Sanctuary in Westchester County of New York by Interstate Highway #87.

It has long been recognized that the highway enthusiasts eyed Fire Island as another 'open space' where a parkway system could be extended at a minimum cost for land acquisition. Since the hurricane of last March the plan to cover this beautiful and unique sandbar with concrete has gained force in New York State. This would undoubtedly destroy the value of The Sunken Forest Preserve which was rescued from developers by the hard work and generosity of many people. The brighter side of the picture here is the consideration being given to making the Island a national seashore. This would be far better than the complete destruction by a parkway. It is the best we can hope for.

Buena Vista Lagoon in Southern California has been an important resting place for migrating waterfowl along the Pacific Flyway. With the loss of so many others, it has become

exceedingly strategic. The Nature Conservancy has extensive holdings around the edges and had hoped soon to acquire the main part of the lagoon itself.

The third, and perhaps the most hopeful, is the effort to keep the planners of the new Interstate Highway #87 from going along Chestnut Ridge near Mr. Kisco, thereby taking the edge of the Arthur W. Butler Memorial Sanctuary and separating it from the Westmoreland Sanctuary now adjoining it. It also means the end to the hope that other private holdings adjoining these two sanctuaries could be acquired for a twenty thousand acre preserve, the largest in the Metropolitan New York area.

A westerly route, advocated by the Village of Mt. Kisco, by Westchester County, the State Conservation Department and the New York State Department of Public Works has once been rejected by the Bureau of Public Roads in Washington. This action almost certainly means that the road will be built along Chestnut Ridge. It is hoped that the Washington Bureau can be persuaded that the ultimate public good would come from the slightly longer and more costly westerly route, leaving the great natural area to be secured and preserved.

The following Christmas Card was received this year by the National Office from Mr. Edward J. Milanese of the Long Island Chapter:

September Solitude
The Great South Beach, Fire Island
View eastward from Bellport C.G.S.

The Great South Beach on Fire Island is a wondrous gift of nature to the people of Long Island. A most rewarding experience is to walk along this beach in the solitude of September observing its wonders and listening to the sounds of surf and gulls. It is a sanctuary that heals the spirit and inspires it anew. It is also a potential laboratory of great importance for the growing science of oceanography.

But now more than ever the wild beauty of the Beach is threatened by man's development and the fury of ocean storms. Conservationists and outdoorsmen believe that the best way to preserve this rare jewel in its natural state for all Americans and all ages is by the establishment of the Fire Island National Seashore. As the old year draws to a close, let us resolve to make a strong effort for a park in the new year to come.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

People of greatly varied interests have been aroused by Rachel Carson's book SILENT SPRING. Naturally, it has been followed by an outcry from enraged interests who scream "It isn't so!" and point to the increased agricultural production or the cheaper removal of vegetation as a justification regardless of the implications for human welfare. It is sad to note that while the facts jolt us, we generally do not move to action. One can hardly expect school boards to be pressed to require instruction in the dangers of several chemical products inherently dangerous to human life as vigorously as they are being urged to build fallout shelters. We just do not view issues in their true perspective. The chemical threat is here and is very real, while fallout is only a potential danger. The difference is that one is dramatic while the other is hidden under apparent benefits.

Certainly we cannot ignore the dangers of destruction that lie in potential wars. This is not an objection to protection against radiation and fallout. It is an appeal that we be equally alert to the dangers brought about through the indiscriminate use of products of less dramatic but equally deadly results. The point is, we must listen to our biologists if we are to survive the destructive uses of some of the discoveries of modern chemistry.

It is necessary that those who care about the welfare of the generations to come take an active part in public affairs. First of all we need to learn the facts and determine for ourselves as individuals wherein lies our peril. We can help ourselves and others by discussion with associates. The continued reminder of danger will eventually arouse others. We can express our concern to civic and public officials. Legislators must be encouraged to act. Support must be given those leaders who work for adequate controls. It is hoped that teachers will be supported and encouraged by boards of education and school administrators to lead children toward a clearer understanding of the hidden dangers in some of the plant and insect controls now being widely used. Perhaps every classroom above the sixth grade should have copies of SILENT SPRING for use as the basis of discussion and study.

In the confusion of interests, issues and causes, the way toward an understanding of the ecological balance in nature and respect for all living things is most difficult. The past century has seen great progress in recognition of human rights. In the next decade we must learn to appreciate all forms of life and think of Man as a partner rather than a ruthless master. --W.S.B.

ALTAMONT PRAIRIE

Although South Dakota once had millions of acres of prairie, there are relatively few areas of native grassland not now destroyed or disturbed by plowing and/or grazing. Samples of prairie must be preserved for many reasons.

Altamont Prairie, a tract of about 62 acres, contains the original prairie flora, and is one of only a very few remaining prairie areas in the eastern South Dakota-western Minnesota area. There has never been any grazing in this area, and the topography is quite varied. The site is approximately at the top of the "Prairie Coteau" at this latitude and has a commanding view to the north and east of the Minnesota River Valley. The remnants of a lookout tower constructed and used by the Sioux Indians is on the eastern portion of the tract.

On August 28, 1961, the Board of Governors approved the project as a natural area for use by the South Dakota State College at Brookings, with a campaign goal of $3,500 and a loan of $3,100, with the understanding that a grant might be requested if necessary for completion of the project.

The State does not permit its institutions to purchase land without legislative approval, and the South Dakota Legislature does not meet again until 1963, therefore an option was signed in August 1961, for a total price of $2,964.48, and the option was exercised in August 1962.

The project was initiated by Dr. L. O. Fine, head of the Department of Agronomy at the College at Brookings, and is one of the first projects under the "Natural Areas For Colleges" program.

CONSERVANCY STAFF CHANGES

O. F. "Barney" Barnett has left The Nature Conservancy and is now Acting Executive Secretary of the Defenders of Wildlife. Our congratulations and best wishes go with him.

W. Harley Webster has replaced Barney as Assistant Director for Administration, as well as Editor of The Conservancy News. Mr. Webster comes to The Conservancy after a dozen or more years on Capitol Hill. He was formerly the Administrative Assistant and Secretary to a number of Congressmen and Senators, covering states from Florida to Nevada--Idaho to New York. Harley is a native of Florida, but has lived in the District of Columbia or nearby Maryland for a number of years.

His experience and educational background fit perfectly into the work of The Nature Conservancy, and we're glad to have him aboard.

THE CONSERVANCY WEST

Many of our readers will be glad to know that our Western Regional Director, Don Greame Kelley, has now issued the first edition of "The Conservancy West" as a channel of communication for TNC members in the West. This mimeographed newsletter will be issued from time to time to keep our Western members abreast of ever-increasing activities from Hawaii to New Mexico, from California to Alaska.

However, there were so many good articles in the first edition that we don't want to keep them from our readers in the East, and the following are a few examples of what is taking place "away out yonder."

WASHINGTON

Chairman (acting) Thornton Thomas

Mr. and Mrs. Tam Deering, Chapter members of Marysville, have made a gift of the first Washington State project, by deeding to TNC ten acres of their lovely woodland property already widely known for its profusion of wildflowers and its birds and animals. This area is to be called WILDFLOWER ACRES. Another ten acres will soon be added to the project through the like generosity of Mr. Paul Unger of Cleveland, Ohio, who is making his donation in the name of the Louis A. Unger Memorial Foundation.

Professor of Botany, Arthur Kruckeberg, at the University of Washington, has just completed a most thorough and valuable report on the conservation of natural areas in the State of Washington. This will be mimeographed by the Western Regional Office and made available to all who are interested.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Chairman Gerhard Bakker

The following projects have been keeping this Chapter working hard.

THE HAMILTON PUNCH BOWL property. This is forty acres on the edge of the desert on San Andreas Fault, north of the San Gabriel Mountains. It is a magnificent area for wildlife observation and photography.

WILL AND EDNA WILLIAMS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY another forty acres of natural land northeast of Bakersfield, in the Sierra foothills.

SANDYLAND SLOUGH, a 250 acre salt marsh in Carpinteria, used each year by water fowl as a stopping place during their migratory flights.

FUND DRIVE

Mrs. Doris Leonard has been named by the Board of Governors as Chairman of the Fund Drive for the Western Region. Members of her committee are: Mr. Charles Cooper, of Santa Rosa, Calif.; Mr. Lauder Hodges, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mr. Irving Clark, Seattle, Wash.; Mr. Louis B. Reynolds, San Francisco, Calif.; and Mr. Don Kelley, WRD.

A Fund Drive is always dependent upon the conviction with which the membership of an organization presents their interests to others. We all give in relation to how much we really believe that what is being done by this group is of real importance. If The Nature Conservancy is to grow, it is the members who will make this growth possible.

Dr. Richard H. Goodwin
Connecticut College
New London, Conn.

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THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

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A comprehensive membership application form was adopted by the Board of Governors at the regular meeting on November 17, 1962. It has become necessary to establish a uniform application blank that will apply equally where chapters do their own billing, in chapter areas where the mailing is handled by the Washington Office, and also in the non-chapter areas. The form is in keeping with the classifications of memberships and the allocation of dues as established at the Annual Meeting of August 1959, with the revision to include junior memberships approved at Wheeling in September 1962.

The form is being printed on card stock in a size suitable for use with a return envelope. For the present only a limited printing has been run in order to test the card in actual use. Later it will be produced in sufficient quantity and an adequate number will be sent to all chapters doing their own mailing. The form will then be provided in a modified version with the imprint of the chapter's name and address in the upper right corner, and proper chapter indicia and address on the return address side.

Below is a sample copy for general use.

In order to reduce the cost of mailings, those who customarily renew their membership at this time are asked to clip this form and mail it to the Washington Office with a check or money order. Of course, all who have already sent in their membership should disregard this request. Co-operation in this matter will be very much appreciated.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY • 2039 K STREET, N.W., • WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

MEMBERSHIP – CHAPTER AND NATIONAL

Date: _____

$_____ Junior Membership (under 18)	$ 2.00	In Chapter areas, 70% goes to chapter and 30% to national organization
$_____ Annual Membership	$ 5.00	
$_____ Sustaining Membership	$ 10.00	
$_____ Contributing Membership	$ 25.00 or more	
$_____ Life Membership	$ 200.00	Placed in National Endowment Fund
$_____ Patron	$1,000.00	To National Organization

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR:

$_____ Support of National Organization $_____ Support of _____ Chapter

$_____ Support of _____ Project

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Your contribution in any category is an allowable income tax deduction, to the extent provided by law.

CONSERVANCY MATERIALS AVAILABLE: Information Bulletin 33, December 1962, is now available, relative to Legal Devices for Preserving Wild Lands, Conservation Easements. Requests for this Bulletin should be directed to the National Office, 2039 K St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.